

# Finlandia Foundation® Columbia-Pacific Chapter

Board of Directors Meeting  
Sunday, April 1, 2012  
2:00p.m.-4:00p.m. Portland  
State University Cramer Hall,  
Finnish Room

## Minutes

*Board Members Present:* Dave Alford, Elisa Boynton, Greg Jacob, Katariina Lehtonen, Cynthia Pannell, Jukka Perkiömäki, Seppo Saarinen, Ray Wikman (*Quorum present*).

*Absent:* Dirk Schulbach, Kai Sjöblom, Andrea Tolonen. *Others Present:* None.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Prior to following the published meeting agenda, Dave Alford and Cynthia Pannell insisted on starting the meeting with the following ‘total surprise’ topic: According to them the agenda format used over the past year was put into question. Cynthia noted the order of business was unconventional, somewhat confusing, and often did not address unfinished business from previous meetings. She suggested the use of a more conventional format (see “*Sample Non-Profit Board Meeting Agenda*”). Dave mentioned the “prioritized” agenda is not designed for an organization of equally elected Board members but rather an agenda for subordinates attending a business meeting. This makes it difficult to introduce new agenda items without prior approval and does not assign equal status to issues Board members may deem important. He also provided a copy of Robert’s Rules of Order (see “*The Agenda – Choreography of Rights and Abuses*”) which outlines a proven format for keeping meetings orderly and on track and allows for participation by all Board members.

Seppo made a point that the 2010 Board had unanimously, including Dave, agreed on this particular format, and as he was not made aware of the topic in advance, he was not prepared to discuss the topic in detail.

The Board discussed the topic, proposed that as a compromise the financial review could be moved to an earlier point, but no decisions were made.

### Agenda

### Approval of Minutes

*Board Minutes (11-6-11); Board Minutes (2-5-12); and Annual Board Minutes (3-10-12).* The minutes from three meetings were read and the Board approved the November and March minutes, as read, and the February minutes, as revised.

## Review of Annual Meeting Unfinished Tasks

It was brought to the FFCPC membership's attention at the Annual Meeting that two important issues regarding the Finnish Classroom remain unresolved and suggested remedies have not been taken. Below is a summary which addresses each issue separately and the related discussion which followed:

*Ownership of Furniture.* To resolve this issue, the Board decided a complete inventory should be taken as soon as practical. A committee consisting of Dave Alford, Katariina Lehtonen, Elisa Boynton and Cynthia Pannell was formed. The committee will work out details and schedule at least one Saturday work meeting.

*Perpetuity of Classroom Usage.* Since the original paperwork between PSU and the Finlandia Foundation Portland Chapter has not been located, the Board agreed that we need to document the Finnish community's vested interest in the room, identify what FFCPC currently owns, and then approach PSU with appropriate documents to secure usage of the Finnish Classroom. Further discussion will continue once the inventory has been completed.

*PSU and Finnish Classes.* The Board was informed that PSU will not offer Finnish classes this coming year. Concerns expressed by Board members lead to a lively discussion about (1) the possibility of Finnish may be permanently dropped from the curriculum and (2) how to keep the Finnish Classroom alive. The Board asked Greg Jacob to investigate the possibilities of PSU offering a future class in "Nordic Culture & History" to create interest in Nordic culture and language instruction.

## FFCPC Member Survey Results

The online survey was a success with 51 responses from FFCPC members and friends. Most of the 2011-2012 activities were well attended. Members are interested in: (1) festivals, (2) cultural events, (3) lectures and (4) social events; and asked for more "informal" activities for all age groups including young adults and children.

Our members also offered suggestions for improvement, such as (1) grow stronger, (2) become more organized, (3) inform everyone in a timely manner, (4) keep our events short and entertaining, and (5) be careful not to overreach ourselves. A summary will be prepared by Greg and Cynthia for distribution to the FFCPC members.

## 2012-2013 FFCPC Events

### *Previously Scheduled Events.*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday, April 6, 2012 7:30-9:30 p.m.	SHF Friday Night Lecture Series (co-sponsored by FFCPC): "Finland – World Leader in Sustainability" by Christine Perala Gardiner in 171 Cramer Hall and Finnish Room

*SHF Friday Night Lecture Committee:* Seppo (leader), Dave, Katariina, Andrea, Greg, Cynthia. *Supporting Members:* Maarit Reed

FFCPC will co-sponsor April's SHF Friday Night Lecture and provide the refreshments.

Date	Event
Friday, April 20, 2012 7:30-8:30 p.m. 8:30-9:30 p.m. (refreshments)	"Sisu, the Finnish Truck" by Seppo Saarinen in Finnish Room

*Presentation Committee:* Seppo (leader), Dave, Katariina  
*Supporting Members:* Eva Saarinen

Monday, April 30, 2012 7:00-10:00 p.m.	Vappu/Walborg's Eve (sponsored by New Sweden) at Dave Carter's farm, 1470 SW Borland Road, West Linn.
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*Vappu Committee:* Dave (leader), Elisa, Cynthia, Seppo. *Supporting Members:* Marlene Broemer

Dave will coordinate refreshments with Carol Tripp, New Sweden president. Possible FFCPC food contributions include sima, potato salad, tippaleipä (fritters), ohukaiset (crêpes/pancakes) with preserves or munkkeja (doughnuts). Elisa suggested we include Finnish Vappu songs and Finnish yard games to the event. It was also recommended the Finnish School be invited to the festivities.

Saturday, June 16, 2012 11:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.	Midsummer Festival (sponsored by SHF) at Oaks Park
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*Midsummer Committee:* Dave? (leader), Elisa, Katariina, Dirk. *Supporting Members:* Dennis Usitalo, Marlene Broemer

The Board agreed to participate in this year's Midsummer Festival as a sponsor with our Helsinki Café food booth. SHF will be contacted as soon as possible to reserve our space and pay our fees: sponsorship (\$100.00) and vendor booth (\$30.00 + 10%). Menu options have yet to be determined. A decision still needs to be made about increasing our presence at the festival. At a previous meeting, we briefly discussed the possibility of a presentation and/or booth display since Helsinki has been designated as the World Design Capital and the #2 travel destination for 2012.

Sunday, August 18, 2012 TBD	Fin-Nic (sponsored by FAHSNW) at the Lindgren Cabin, Warrenton, OR
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*FinNic Committee:* \_\_\_\_\_(leader). *Supporting Members:*

Details regarding FFCPC's contributions for the picnic need to be finalized. Also, since FAHSNW will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we need to encourage FFCPC membership attendance this fun event.

*Other Potential Events.* The Board needs more information before decisions can be made about scheduling these events. Either, a committee or individuals for this task will be organized and/or assigned at our next meeting.

Date	Event
TBD 2012 TBD	POY Concert at Messiah Lutheran or other location
TBD 2012 TBD	LOY Presentation in Finnish Room
TBD 2012 TBD	Sonore Chamber Choir Concert
TBD 2012 TBD	Tapani Yrjölä, DM – Violin/Organ Concert
TBD 2012 TBD	Finlandia University Presentation

*Postponed Presentations/Lectures.* The following presentations need to be scheduled.

Date	Event
Friday, TBD 2012 7:30-9:30 p.m.	"Nokia Corporation" by Seppo Saarinen in Finnish Room
Friday, TBD 2012 7:30-8:30 p.m. 8:30-9:30 p.m. (refreshments)	"Finnish Composers" by Elisa Boynton in Finnish Room

### Annual Meeting/Jean Sibelius Dinner

The Board briefly discussed revisiting the Annual Meeting/Dinner format due to poor membership attendance. It was suggested we adopt a more informal “celebration”-type format with a “very short” meeting agenda (minimal business). The Board agreed a committee should be organized to investigate options for the February 2013 Annual Meeting.

### Membership

A question was raised regarding how we should count membership – should we count the total number of members, not just the number of families? Also, it was suggested that we have more members than in 2011. The Board did not have enough information to discuss this matter at this time.

### Financials and 2012 Budget

Copies of the financial report (January 1 through March 20, 2012) were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. Discussion of the 2012 Budget was postponed until the next meeting.

## Board Meeting Schedule

The following dates were approved for the remaining 2012 Board meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, April 29	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Finnish Room
Saturday, May 19	TBD	Saarinen Home 5215 NW 14th Circle Camas, WA 98607-9487
Saturday, August 18	TBD	Erik Lindgren Pioneer Home Cullaby Lake County Park 89990 Hawkins Rd Warrenton, OR 97146
Sunday, September 9	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Finnish Room
Sunday, October 7	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Finnish Room
Sunday, November 4	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Finnish Room
Sunday, December 9	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Finnish Room

## Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.